

From Truman to Bush - Four Decades of Wrestling

RIT Tigers
1988-1989 Wrestling

*Time present and time past
Are both perhaps present in time future,
And time future contained in time past.
T. S. Elliot*

Most students who have used the weightroom know Earl Fuller. Everyday he can be found on the bike doing his 30 minutes, jogging around the track, and working out with the wrestling team.

An RIT Hall of Fame inductee, the coach joined RIT in 1948 to coach wrestling and teach economics. Today after over four decades at RIT, he is an institution in himself. Being with RIT for over forty years, he has seen a lot of changes. He still remembers with affection the days when RIT was downtown, and you could slip out of class to Main Street for coffee break. When he talks about that time there is a twinkle in his eye. He talks of the panty raids, RIT parades on the streets of downtown, the sixties with their fun and student protests, and the big transition from the city campus to Henrietta.

The coach is enthusiastic about what he does, the school and the students. "There's a lot of personal personal reward, a lot of inner satisfaction that comes with the sport. It's just something that appealed to me, something that I've enjoyed doing. I guess that's why I am still coaching," says Fuller.

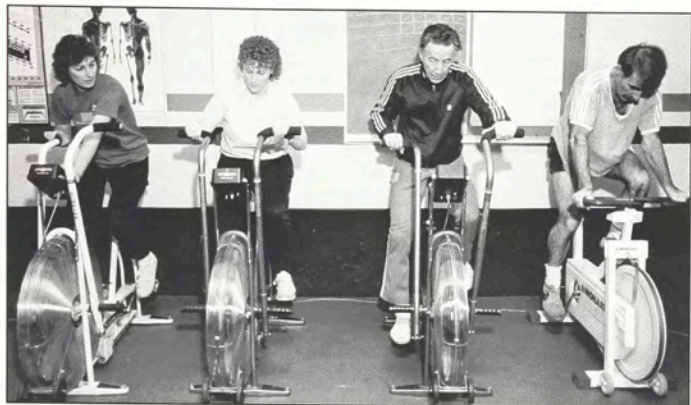
He scoffs at those who complain about the lack of spirit. He makes a valid point when he says, "RIT is not Division I, it is Division III. We have the same amount of spirit as any other school of this nature. If we compare ourselves to big liberal art universities, we are bound to look colorless."

Apart from his activities here, the coach is an avid outdoorsman, who loves getting away

from the city whenever he can. His favorite activities include hunting and fishing with his dog.

When asked about retirement, the Dean of NCAA wrestling has this to say, "As long as you enjoy what you are doing, why retire," which when you consider it makes a lot of sense.

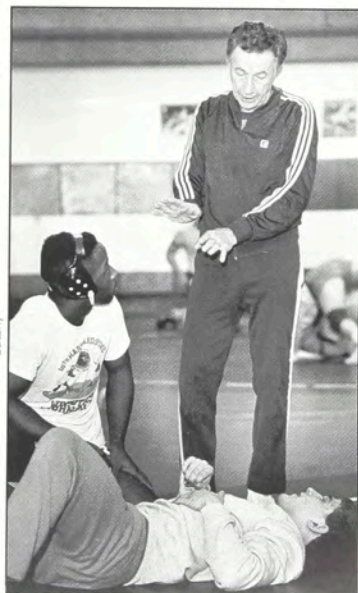




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